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Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A method for optimized tracking of an optical scanner along a track of an optical recording medium, the track having information markings arranged in dense succession, and also having fundamental changes in properties in significantly lower density, the method comprising:

generating a track error signal;

detecting an occurrence of a fundamental change in a property of the track;

generating an offset value from a comparison of a value of the track error signal that occurs before the detected fundamental change in property of the track to a value of the track error signal that occurs after the detected fundamental change in property of the track;

generating the track error signal, taking account of the offset value; and

repeating the aforementioned steps.

2. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection of the occurrence of the fundamental change in property of the track is effected by detection of a header area.

3. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the track error signal is generated by a tracking method comprising one of a push-pull method, a three-beam method and a differential push-pull method.

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a different signal that is impaired by a track offset of the optical scanner is generated instead of the track error signal.

5. (previously presented) An apparatus for reading from and/or writing to optical recording media including tracks having information markings arranged in dense succession, and fundamental changes in properties that occur in significantly lower density, the apparatus comprising:

a track control loop for generating a track error signal;

a track property change detector for detecting a track property change and generating a signal in response to the detection; and

an offset value generator, which, in a manner dependent on the signal generated by the track property change detector, generates an offset value from a comparison of a value of the track error signal that occurs before the detection of the track property change to a value of the track error signal that occurs after the detection of the track property change and feeds said offset value to the track control loop.